

D-21392

- 5 -

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4 have been amended in order to more clearly point out the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention. As such, claims 1-8 remain pending in this case.

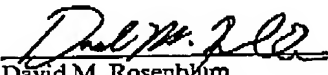
The Examiner indicated that claim 8 was objected to as being based on a rejected parent claim but would be in allowable form and that there existed other allowable subject matter in the claims.

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim subject matter that Applicants regarded as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner stated in the action that it is indefinite as to what would constitute the product purity specification. Applicants have amended claim 1 to indicate that the product purity specification would be a hydrogen purity level and an impurity level wherein the impurities comprise carbon dioxide and water vapor. In this regard, as mentioned by the Examiner, it has been found by the inventors that storage of hydrogen within a salt formation produces unacceptably high levels of carbon dioxide. Hence, Applicants submit that the term "product purity specification" has been classified.

Applicants are aware that this response is being made within the second month. Applicants have enclosed herewith a petition to respond in the second month together with directions to charge deposit account no. 16-2440 in the amount of \$450.00

In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks set forth above, Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of all presently pending claims. Since the claims are in condition for allowance, prompt and favorable action is hereby respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

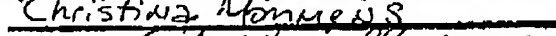

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